

Amendments to the Specification

Please **replace** the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 4 with the following **rewritten** paragraph:

~~-- This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/438,427 (Attorney Docket No. PU030010), filed January 7, 2003 and entitled "MIXED INTER/INTRA VIDEO CODING OF MACROBLOCK PARTITIONS", which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.~~

This application claims the benefit, under 35 U.S.C. § 365 of International Application PCT/US04/00074, filed January 6, 2004, which was published in accordance with PCT Article 21(2) on July 29, 2004 in English and which claims the benefit of United States provisional patent application No. 60/438,427, filed January 7, 2003. --